



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL  
OF SOCIAL SERVICE

59TH ANNUAL REPORT  
2005–2006



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# SACOSS



*South Australian Council of Social Service*

Who we are and what we do

As the peak non-government representative body for community services in South Australia, SACOSS believes in ***justice, opportunity and shared wealth for all South Australians.***

SACOSS has a strong membership base of almost 300 people and organisations from a broad range of areas in the social services arena. Members of our organisation span both small and large agencies, peak bodies, service providers, individuals and some government departments.

Members display an impressive commitment to social justice in South Australia, manifest in our 40 strong policy council and range of sub groups that tackle specific issues. These groups actively debate issues of importance to the sector and strive for better public policy. The voice of SACOSS is strong, resolute and committed, and draws strength from being part of a cohesive membership of like focussed people.

SACOSS is part of a national network, consisting of ACOSS and the State and Territory Councils of Social Service, who assist low income and disadvantaged people Australia wide. As the peak non government representative body for community services in South Australia, SACOSS believes in

SACOSS' purpose is to influence public policy in a way that promotes fair and just access to the goods and services required to live a decent life. Our major activities cover:

### **Policy**

*We analyse, negotiate and argue for good social policy.*

### **Advocacy**

*We meet with the decision-makers, and advocate for disadvantaged people.*

### **Information & Comment**

*We provide information and comment on social policy.*

### **Sector Development**

*We advise and assist community organisations on management issues.*

### **Workshops & Seminars**

*We bring people together to debate community sector issues and current public policy.*

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## President's Report

Over the past year I have been really impressed with the way SACOSS has taken up the issues of poverty and inequality. These are issues that we must always be concerned about and it's pleasing to see that work continuing.

Unfortunately, under the current federal government, it seems that the principles of equality and fairness no longer receive the recognition and respect that they deserve. Easy-going acceptance of the rights of each individual to pursue, and be granted, opportunity, seems to be on the decline. We have let suspicion come into our attitudes and a feeling that opportunity for one will result in a diminution of opportunity for one's self. I was, however, pleased to see the withdrawal of the *Migration Amendment (Designated Unauthorised Arrivals) Bill 2006* recently, which was a piece of legislation contrary to Australia's fundamental generosity as a nation.

I would like to see greater engagement in the area of health reform; there is still too much emphasis on the problems of the hospitals, without addressing the issues of why people end up in hospital and providing services to people in the community.

However, I have been pleased to note that the South Australian Government is moving to assist general practice in the employment of nurses, which one would hope would relieve general practitioners to spend more time in appropriate medical care. It is also interesting to note that there is intention to develop health management plans for individuals which involve allied health services, and I hope this grows.

Our focus needs to be on the integration of health services and the establishment of allied health care centres in the community, encouraging doctors to think broadly about all of the issues that impact on an individual's health, including exercise programs and access to heated pools. There is a need to better integrate transport and health services. There is no point in establishing appropriate health services, without establishing the means by which people can reach them. This applies regionally as well as in urban and suburban areas.

The emphasis on homelessness and affordable housing still seems to need further work and increased funding. Better relationships between the state and the commonwealth can do nothing but improve matters. There is work required to address the growing inequalities in the justice system. Access to finance now seems to be a pre-requisite for engaging in the justice system, with it being increasingly difficult for ordinary individuals to achieve positive outcomes.

I strongly support the suggestion for a reference group to profile regional issues in the day to day work of the secretariat. As a member of several regional constituencies, I appreciate the frustrations of regional populations and of Indigenous communities. I would like to see a close link with the Indigenous people.

Finally, I view the potential sale of Medibank Private with suspicion and concern.

As always, my thanks to the staff, as well as the Board, Policy Council and all of our members and supporters, for a very busy and successful year. I commend SACOSS and the Community Service Sector to all as essential components of our social fabric.

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# Chairperson's Report

Simon Shcrapel

As SACOSS enters its 60<sup>th</sup> year, we can reflect on a past of many struggles and several achievements in our quest to establish a fairer and more just life for all South Australians. The fight for justice has never been an easy path, and our experiences over the past twelve months have been symptomatic of those of the preceding 59 years.

Together with our members, SACOSS continues to be a voice for the dispossessed, the financially and socially disadvantaged and those denied access to a fair go. Over the last year, our advocacy has been underpinned by SACOSS' Anti-Poverty Campaign, launched in 2005 with *Extending Opportunity to All: a blueprint for the elimination of poverty*, now the cornerstone of our advocacy work.

Through the leadership and direction of the Policy Council, the targets in the *Blueprint* are being transformed into a series of focussed and achievable strategies. Given the breadth of policy issues canvassed in the *Blueprint*, SACOSS' approach will be to tackle the targets on an iterative basis. The initial focus has been to address the first target in each of the five areas of: Income; Employment, Education and Training; Health and Wellbeing; Housing and Social Participation. The strategies devised to meet the *Blueprint* outcomes are supported by a strong evidence base of what works, are supported by our constituency and call on targeted investments by government, business and the broader community. At the same time, the approach developed by SACOSS aims to take a constructive path of building on and complementing existing initiatives and policy positions where possible.

*Extending Opportunity to All* will continue to form the basis of much of SACOSS' advocacy and public policy work in the years to come as we endeavour to improve outcomes for all South Australians. It will ensure that the eradication of poverty remains our overriding objective and focus.

In concert with our Anti-Poverty Campaign, SACOSS has continued to also advocate on a range of allied fronts, in recognition of the interplay between various public policy issues and justice and opportunity.

In acknowledging the increasing impact of price spikes in utility and petrol costs on struggling households, SACOSS established an Essential Services Task Group to lead the work on SACOSS' policy responses in this critical area. The Task Group reports through the Policy Council as it develops our position on issues ranging from subsidies to disconnections.

As the government has pursued the implementation of reforms to child protection in South Australia through the passage of new legislation, SACOSS maintained an important role in negotiating needed amendments. This intervention has strengthened the legislation's response to ensuring families receive the support necessary to help children remain safe.

These are just two of the many issues SACOSS has taken leadership on in advocating for better responses to vulnerable groups within South Australia. Such action will continue to be at the heart of what SACOSS does and how we seek to influence key political and public policy processes and decisions. It is our core business.

To be effective in our public policy advocacy, SACOSS needs to maintain a healthy governance and connection with our membership. We cannot take our members for granted and have continued to seek improvements in how we communicate with members and service members' needs and interests. During the past year, we had an independent survey undertaken of our members, utilising the skills of an experienced market researcher. The results were overwhelmingly affirming, with the vast majority of members rating high satisfaction across a range of criteria. However, there is always room for improvement and we are now undertaking a more detailed assessment of how we might improve the functioning and decision making of our Policy Council and achieve a more broad based inclusion of our general membership in key policy discussions and agenda setting.

At a Board level, SACOSS continues to examine how we can strengthen our governance through appropriate policy setting and review and risk management. This process follows an earlier governance review undertaken by the Board and has resulted in the development of a range of key policies in areas such as Conflict of Interest to Codes of Conduct, as well as a thorough review of the SACOSS Constitution. The later has resulted in a number of amendments to the Constitution being proposed by the Board to be considered at the 2006 Annual General Meeting.

Following over twelve months of negotiation, the SACOSS Board reached agreement with Marjorie Black House Inc., for the transfer to SACOSS of property owned by Marjorie Black House. This transfer was consistent with the objectives of both organisations and will enable Marjorie Black to maintain some of its activities at the property in Hyde Park into the future without the onerous obligations of property management.

Particular acknowledgement must be given to those members of the Secretariat and the Board, including Wendy Malycha and Mike Dawson, who led this protracted but thorough process, and to Daphne Gum from Marjorie Black House. SACOSS has taken on a significant asset which we must now carefully manage in accordance with our agreement with the Board of Marjorie Black House and our commitment to enhancing opportunities and outcomes for people with a mental illness in South Australia.

Finally, I would like to thank my colleagues on the Board and Policy Council for the ongoing commitment they have continued to make to create a fairer South Australia and a strong and credible advocacy body that is SACOSS today. These efforts are complemented by a dedicated, professional and passionate Secretariat, expertly led by our Executive Director, Karen Grogan. Together they provide a solid base as SACOSS heads into the future, beyond our first 60 years.

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# Executive Director's Report

Karen Grogan

2005-6 has been another year of high activity for SACOSS, consolidating upon work commenced in the previous financial year. We finalised our *Poverty: It's Closer Than You Think* campaign and started planning for SACOSS' 60<sup>th</sup> year celebrations. We said goodbye to a number of valued staff and also welcomed some new staff aboard.

It has been a time of high energy and output from the secretariat and I take this opportunity to thank staff, as well as our regular volunteers and those who contribute to SACOSS' work through their positions on the Board and Policy Council. Without the dedication and support of these people we would not be able to maintain this level of work.

Undeniably, it has also been a challenging year for the sector in the lead up to the introduction of 'Welfare to Work' and industrial relations changes at the federal level. Many of us have spent the year in preparation for the implementation of the changes, keeping ourselves and our clients advised of the impact they are likely to have. In this coming financial year, we will begin to see that impact take effect.

## *Goal 1 – Fair and just policy*

Policy Council's output over the past financial year has been tremendous. The Policy Council developed *Extending Opportunity to All: a blueprint for the elimination of poverty in South Australia*.

The *Blueprint* outlines a series of targets for achievement by 2015, under the areas of: income; employment, education and training; health and wellbeing; housing; and social participation. Once met, these targets will constitute significant progress towards the elimination of poverty in our state. The *Blueprint* now stands as SACOSS' key advocacy document for the years to come.

In June this year, SACOSS followed up the *Blueprint* with its state budget submission, *Building on the Blueprint*, a companion document to *Extending Opportunity to All*. This sets the model for state budget submissions for years to come.

In addition to its work on the campaign and in developing the *Blueprint* and its companion document, Policy Council has maintained its advocacy work in other areas, including food donor legislation to make it easier for businesses to donate food.; an Information and Communications Technology policy, addressing the need for ICT development in the sector as well as the issue of the 'digital divide' for many clients and agencies; a position paper on mental health, with a strong focus on the wellness model and the need for services to enable people to live well in the community.

Policy Council established an Essential Services Task Group, which is developing policy positions in the areas of essential services, prompted by the impact that petrol price increases are having on low income South Australians. Policy Council also established a regional engagement working party, to promote a higher profile for SACOSS in regional areas and further integrate regional issues in the work of Policy Council and the secretariat.

## *Goal 2 – A strong and credible voice*

Policy Council has complemented its policy work by hosting a number of senior speakers in a range of areas. This year speakers have included: Leena Sudano, Health and Community Services Complaints Commissioner; Isobel Redmond, then Shadow Minister for Families and Communities, Disability and Ageing; David Panter, Chief Executive of the Central Northern Health Service; Jeff Tryens, Executive Director of SA Strategic Plan Community Connection; and Sue Vardon, Chief Executive of the Department for Families and Communities.

In keeping with its commitment to a strong and credible voice, Policy Council developed a policy on SACOSS representation on external committees, to ensure our representatives maintain a strong relationship with us and to support them in their advocacy work through the establishment of clear and effective policy statements.

In July 2005, SACOSS held a conference built on the five themes of the *Closer Than You Think* campaign. This proved to be an outstanding success; it was oversubscribed, with attendees coming from the sector, all levels of government and the broader community. SACOSS was delighted to be able to provide a number of sponsored positions for low-income delegates, thanks to the generosity of the conference sponsors.

In addition to its ongoing policy and advocacy work, SACOSS remains actively engaged in a range of products that strengthen the sector and that contribute to discussions around progressive public policy.

In the past financial year, SACOSS has continued its microfinance project, developing and promoting positive models that allow people on low incomes to save, build assets, borrow and generate income. SACOSS has also continued with its Low Income Support Program project, whereby it provides support and development assistance to workers and agencies operating low income support services in the areas of professional development and advocacy.

In early 2006 Malcolm Downes, our Sector Development Officer, left us to take up an exciting opportunity in the Office of the Guardian for Young People. Malcolm was well known to many of our members as a reliable source of advice and sector development support. Rosalyn Williams also left SACOSS after two years work in the area of low income support, to take up a new role at UnitingCare Wesley, Bowden. We wish both Malcolm and Rosalyn continued success in work and life.

We have taken a new direction in our sector development services, reviewing and updating the resources that have proven so valuable to our members and the broader sector.

Over the past financial year SACOSS picked up new projects in the area of the disability workforce and the introduction of quality systems in the sector. As well as continuing to publish SACOSS News and the *e-bulletin*, SACOSS continued to build its media profile over the past year. During the past year, SACOSS issued 24 media releases and continued to build its media contacts in both metropolitan and regional South Australia. SACOSS conducted hundreds of interviews on a diverse range of issues, ranging from the imminent welfare changes, to state election issues, to the outcomes of the annual Community Sector Survey.

#### *Goal 3 – A strong and cohesive sector*

Over the past financial year SACOSS continued to lead what has become known as the 'industry-wide framework group'. The community services sector is one of the fastest growing in South Australia and a key employer in the state. However, this growth has not been matched by a comprehensive workforce strategy to ensure skilled staff can be sourced and retained in response to increasing expectations and demand.

In mid-2005, SACOSS identified a group of key stakeholders in the sector, including the Association of Major Community Organisations (AMCO), the Australian Services Union (ASU) and the Liquor Hospitality and Miscellaneous Union (LHMU). Since its inaugural meeting, the group's discussions have focused on seeking support from the state government to work with employers, unions and peak bodies to develop a plan aimed at enhancing the sector's capacity to attract and retain suitably qualified and experienced staff.

As a companion to this issue, in early 2006 SACOSS coordinated the publication in *The Advertiser* of a statement entitled, 'Strong community, healthy state'. This statement outlined some of the key challenges facing the sector and, in a strong commitment to collective action across the sector, was signed by 15 of South Australia's peak organisations. The 'Strong community, healthy state' statement is available on the SACOSS website at <http://www.sacoss.org.au/strongcommunity/index.htm>

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SACOSS continues to serve as a co-chair of the Peaks Forum, which is run in partnership with the Department for Families and Communities and the Department of Health. As part of its engagement with the Peaks Forum, SACOSS partnered with member organisation, the Mental Health Coalition of SA, to push the development of a joint advice to the relevant ministers on the topic of mental health. As with the SACOSS advocacy position, the focus was on principles and strategies to progress a wellness model in the area of mental health. It is hoped that this model of a collective approach will be able to progress a range of future issues through the Peaks Forum.

*Goal 4 – A well-managed organisation*

In the last financial year, SACOSS completed a survey of its members. The results of this survey were very gratifying for the secretariat, Board and Policy Council as they demonstrated that members have a very high level of satisfaction in the work that SACOSS does and the level at which it does it.

However, we are not about to rest on our laurels off the back of the survey. Policy Council and the secretariat will be progressing work over the next year that is intended to consolidate our areas of strength and work on those areas that we feel can be improved.

Over the past year we have continued to be well assisted by our stalwart volunteers, Harvey and Grethe Brown, and Nancy Brand. With regret, we said goodbye to Graham Speed and Rachel Williams.

As the 2005-6 financial year draws to a close, the SACOSS secretariat, Board and Policy Council are all looking forward to another active year ahead of us. We look forward to any opportunity we have of working with our members, as we pursue the SACOSS vision of *Justice, Opportunity and Shared Wealth for all South Australians*.

# SACOSS

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## ACOSS Board of Governors

Terese Edwards

As the Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS) reaches the age of 50, it poses the question 'what makes Australia Fair'? ACOSS wants Australians to think about 'fairness' and what is needed to create 'fairness' for all in Australia. Fairness was a guiding principle in ACOSS's key recommendations for the 2006 budget, and its response to the federal government's welfare 'reform' agenda.

ACOSS, along with the community sector, held an Advocacy Day at Parliament House on 15 September 2005. This provided an opportunity to present a consistent and clear message of objection to the proposed welfare changes. Unfortunately, this did not stop the bill from being passed.

'Welfare to Work' has the potential to negatively impact upon many Australians who, for a range of reasons, rely on income support. ACOSS has consistently supported policies and practices that support Australians to move from income support into employment. However, ACOSS remains opposed to 'Welfare to Work' due to the likelihood that it will result in increased hardship.

ACOSS wants to engage with the broader community and seek its involvement in promoting a fair Australia for all. Further information on the Australia Fair campaign can be found at [www.acoss.org.au](http://www.acoss.org.au)

## Child Protection Inter-Agency Guidelines Steering Committee and Guidelines Working Party

Rob Foggo

Both Committees have similar terms of reference, with the Steering Committee having oversight of the process and work to be completed by the Working Party. To date, the main role of the Working Party has been to develop a "revised Child Protection Inter-agency Guidelines package consistent with the principles of shared responsibility in Keeping Them Safe, the government's child protection reform agenda and the proposed changes to the Child Protection Bill".

A draft *Interagency Child Protection Information Book Volume 1* has been completed. It will provide a reference point and some general principles upon which a volume 2 document can be built, describing in more detail the guidelines, protocols and procedures involved in agencies working together to protect children. The book is to serve as a resource for workers who do not normally deal with child protection matters as part of their daily work, but who may be required to do so on occasion.

The *Interagency Child Protection Information Book Volume 1* should be distributed by December. The Working Committee has meetings scheduled through until December 2006.

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## Community Foodies Alliance

The Community Foodies Alliance was initially funded for two years through the Department of Health. That funding ran out in June 2006 and there have been discussions about the future of the Alliance. Funding has been identified through some savings, to pay for the co-ordinator on a part-time temporary basis.

Key outcomes of the Alliance have included:

- implementation of the Foodies program in Playford, Salisbury, Adelaide Hills, Onkaparinga and Port Pirie;
- 50 active Foodies volunteers, four of whom are Indigenous;
- in the three months to June 2006, Foodies reached approximately 30,000 people with their message of healthy eating;
- a self-reported increase in children's consumption of fruit and vegetables; and an increase in Foodies programs participants' knowledge of nutrition and cooking skills.

The imperative for the Alliance now is to seek future funding.

## Courts Administration Authority Community Reference Group

In the year under review, Community Reference Group (CRG), which suggests community views to the Courts Administration Authority (CAA), met twice; in November 2005 and in March 2006.

The November meeting was an extraordinary meeting, as the CRG meets routinely only twice a calendar year. It was convened on the recommendation of the CRG following an invitation to provide input into the development of the CAA's Community Involvement Plan.

In March, the CRG suggested priority be given to youth and culturally diverse groups in society, who are particularly vulnerable and need information. The group was told that the CAA would include the information provided by the CRG into its new corporate strategic plan. It was also agreed that all members of CRG support proposed regional mini court open days at Port Pirie and Berri, in the first instance, by setting up information stands pertinent to their memberships.

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Frank Lampard



## Dame Roma Mitchell Trust Fund Board

Christine Halsey

This year has been both rewarding and frustrating for Board members: we have been able to make a great deal of difference for a couple of hundred young people/households but the need seems so much greater than we can meet.

The starting principal is decreasing, and we are allocating between \$250,000 and \$300,000 per year. Additional funds would be useful, as the Trust Fund is making a valuable contribution to the lives of young people who have been under guardianship. This year the Trust Fund:

- granted two applicants \$10,000 for a house deposit;
- made arrangements with a provider to offer computer packages at an agreed rate to the increasing number of applicants seeking help to purchase their own computer; and
- commenced work on making similar arrangements with retailers of other commonly requested goods.

The Board members have often expressed their concern that the applicants have most often not been able to access assistance through Families SA because of lack of resources. The administration of the fund has recently been transferred from the Office for Youth to the Community Connect Branch of the Department for Families and Communities. It is to be hoped that this may lead to improved connections regarding how young people who have been under guardianship are facilitated and supported as they leave care.

## Essential Services Commission of SA Consumer Advisory Committee

Mark Henley

While the electricity price rises of recent years have stabilised, the Essential Services Commission of SA (ESCoSA) has continued to be a dynamic and highly competent regulator, dealing with a significant number of issues impacting on household consumers. There were five key issues considered by ESCoSA over the past 12 months.

### *The move to National Energy Regulation*

This is a major shift as utility provision and regulation has been the domain of states and territories. Two new energy regulatory bodies have been established. Clarity is emerging regarding relationships between them and state-based regulators.

### *2006 Review of Envestra Gas Access Arrangement.*

Gas price and regulation issues probably took a greater percentage of ESCoSA attention over the last 12 months, after the major electricity review of retail and distribution price reviews of previous years. A review of gas regulatory instruments was also conducted.

### *Review of ETSA Utilities Supply Processes.*

This was in response to highly publicised supply interruptions during very hot days during the summer in January 2006.

### *Demand Management.*

The price determination for distribution charges allowed ETSA Utilities to spend up to \$20 million, over five years, to develop demand management strategies.

### *Wind Energy.*

ESCoSA completed some very useful thinking during 2005 about difficult issues associated with wind energy and technical issues associated with transmission.

Further information on these and other ESCoSA work is available on [www.escosa.sa.gov.au](http://www.escosa.sa.gov.au)

## Housing Council

The 2005/2006 financial year has been busy and uncertain for people working and/or interested in housing outcomes in South Australia.

The release of the *Housing Plan* for South Australia in March 2005 has proved, as expected, to be the springboard for developments in the way that social housing and affordable housing are provided in this state. The Housing Council has been kept well-informed of the progress of the first and second stages of the Housing Review and has had several opportunities to engage in discussion with people managing the process.

The Department for Families and Communities (DFC) has also been holding Policy Plus workshops, to which Housing Council members have been invited. These have been another useful avenue for information sharing, discussion and learning, in the areas of Indigenous Housing, and Homestart; more are planned, possibly on Homelessness and Stage 2 Projects of the Housing Review.

In May 2006 DFC announced major changes to the structure of the Department of Housing. The new Housing SA will be the 'front end' for social housing services, and it will incorporate a range of services including public and community housing, Indigenous housing, private rental assistance, homelessness services and home ownership programs.

After about 11 years representing SACOSS on this advisory body Christine Halsey stepped down in March and Karen Grogan took over.

Christine Halsey and Karen Grogan

## Julia Farr Services Board

This will be the last report I offer to SACOSS in regards to Julia Farr Services. Due to the present government policies, Julia Farr is to become incorporated as part of the Department for Families and Communities.

Julia Farr has a history of over 105 years of servicing people with disabilities. Over the past three years Julia Farr has geared itself towards moving more and more into community supports and accommodation, with the goal of maintaining a small population of residents on its campus and the majority of its clients being given the opportunity to experience integration into, or remaining part of, the community.

The move by government to incorporate the above services under the banner of Disabilities SA is seen as creating a one stop agency for clients and their families. Only time will tell if this philosophy and its policies, programs and, most of all, funding will allow for the visions of the current Board of Julia Farr to be achieved.

As part of the agreement a new organisation, most likely to be called Julia Farr Association, will be formed with the view to ongoing services for people with disabilities. Its exact role is still being considered by the members of the interim Board. JFA will have at its disposal a range of accommodation, which is part of the transfer deal with the South Australian government.

Andrew Kyprianou

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## Legal Services Commission

Mike Dawson

I have attended five Commission meetings as well as three Appeals hearings. The business of Commission meetings has been primarily to receive management reports about all areas of operation. Appeals hearings are conducted to hear appeals against refusal of individual aid applications.

While not much policy development or strategic planning has occurred yet there is a corporate planning day scheduled for November and a Conference in mid 2007 at which these functions will occur.

Key actions, initiatives and issues over the next three to six months will include:

- maintain existing services within budget in environment of escalating costs arising from the government's law and order campaign; and
- determine service levels and legal fee scales for the 2006-2007 in light of diminishing state funds, available from Commission Reserves.

Projects, initiatives and issues in next six to 18 months will include:

- state funds on a recurring basis are insufficient to meet current service levels;
- pressure is growing to increase payment for private practitioners who do legal aid assignments;
- law and order initiatives will increase the demand for legal aid services;
- regional services such as duty solicitor services are currently inadequate (often non-existent);
- state fund reserves held by the Commission will be exhausted by July 2007; and
- new courts, especially in Port Augusta, will place pressure on the Commission to open new offices.

## Ministerial Reference Group on Tobacco Control

Wendy Malycha

The Ministerial Reference Group on Tobacco (MRGOT) last year established the *South Australian Tobacco Control Strategy 2005-2010* and this year is able to report progress toward achieving the strategy's key targets. They are:

- smoking prevalence to be reduced to 17% among adults;
- smoking prevalence to be reduced by 10% in young people;
- increased community awareness of the health effects of both active and passive smoking and support for tobacco control measures;
- exposure to passive smoking in indoor workplaces is eliminated (0% of employees, including hospitality, report exposure at their workstation);
- public exposure to passive smoking in confined public spaces such as sporting stadiums and alfresco dining to be reduced by 2%; and
- increase the proportion of smoke-free homes and cars.

A higher proportion of people diagnosed with a mental illness smoked in comparison to those who had not been diagnosed (29.2% compared to 18.0%). 53.5% of individuals currently receiving the disability pension for a psychiatric illness were smokers. There has been little decline in the high rates of smoking in the adult Indigenous population over time.

A sustained effort in tobacco control is necessary to maintain the decline in smoking rates in the overall population, in young people and people with mental illness. Consolidation and coordination of effort is required in this state to address smoking rates among Indigenous people.

## National Energy Consumers Roundtable

The National Energy Consumers Roundtable was established during the 2005-06 year in response to the major changes in energy regulation in Australia, which have been driven by the Council of Australian Governments (CoAG) Energy Market Agreement of 30 June 2004.

The Roundtable is still working out its structure, membership and reporting arrangements, however the relatively informal meetings have been very important in enabling participants to share information about what they have been doing at state and territory jurisdictional level, while also enabling the opportunity for some national focus.

The Roundtable was joined at its second meeting by Dr John Tamblyn, Chairman of the Australian Energy Market Commission, a reflection of the value in having a national process that brings together perspectives from low income and disadvantaged people and is able to present those perspectives as new national structures and processes are developed.

A Charter of Essential services has been developed by the group as well as the coordination of submissions on a range of energy related topics.

## Offenders' Aid and Rehabilitation Services Council

The OARS Council is the peak representative forum of the Offenders Aid & Rehabilitation Services of SA Inc. In 2006 OARS achieved National Accreditation. The Council held two meetings in 2006, which were followed by public forums.

In February the Council met to discuss the OARS Quality Improvement Workplan, the OARS Strategic Plan, as well as the issues surrounding the upcoming State Election. At the public forum, guest speakers discussed the theme: Election 2006 – Critical Justice Issues. The speakers provided a balanced, evidence-based perspective on how our criminal justice system could prevent crime and be more effective in reducing re-offending, and providing healing for victims.

In May 2006 the Council examined the work being done by OARS in their Child and Family Counselling Program, working with children and families of offenders. Sadly, this program has been unable to retain funding. The subsequent public forum also addressed the subject of Children of Offenders and Prisoners, and was attended by approximately 90 people. The speakers each shared their expertise, presenting an interesting and passionate overview of issues such as child protection for children of offenders and prisoners, single mothers who offend and their children, the theory of disenfranchised grief, and the State Government's current implementation of the Children of Prisoners Project.

OARS will hold its AGM in November 2006. The new Minister for Correctional Services, the Hon Carmel Zollo MLC, will be the speaker.

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Marj Ellis



## Review of Property Based Concessions Steering Committee

Matt Fisher and David Kilner

This year SACOSS was represented on the steering committee of a review of the administration of property based concessions on water and council rates. The review was funded by the state government and undertaken through the Local Government Association.

State government funded concessions on water and council rates are available to property owners on low incomes, and to community housing organisations, in relation to properties where the sitting tenant meets income eligibility. These concessions are administered through a number of agencies including, Families SA, SA Water and local governments. The aim of the review was to look at the administrative arrangements whereby people access these concessions.

KPMG reviewed current arrangements and developed recommendations. KPMG has made some useful recommendations, including the development of a single application form for all types of concession for temporary benefit recipients and pensioners, rather than the current separate forms; the Department for Families and Communities to be the single point of contact for all concessions; faster processing reducing the need for refunds; and streamlined administrative arrangements between the agencies involved.

However, as of writing, the committee has identified a number of further issues arising from the initial report, and is seeking some further work to be done on it.

## SA Carers Reference Group

Geoff Harris

I represent SACOSS on the SA Carers Reference Group, which meets quarterly and commenced in February 2006.

The task of this group is to provide advice to the process of translating the new *Carers Recognition Act* into policy and practice across all state departments. The process is being driven by the Department for Families and Communities and includes the development of specific requirements for South Australian government departments to report on their progress in initiating and maintaining their obligations under the *SA Carers Recognition Act*, the *SA Carers Charter* and the *SA Carers Policy*.

Result of this work should be improved understanding and responsiveness to carer needs and issues across all areas of government.

## South Australian Dental Service (SADS) Community Advisory Panel

The 2005 – 2006 financial year has been a very active one for the Community Advisory Panel (CAP). The first State Oral Health Plan in ten years has been prepared and has taken considerable time of all stakeholders and including the CAP. The priorities of the CAP were:

- workforce numbers, distribution and public sector availability;
- waiting lists;
- aged care services; and
- the cost of private dental care.

The plan has been presented to the Minister and awaits his approval.

The chairperson of CAP is also a member of the Oral Health Advisory Committee of CNAHS, hence there is a community representative on this committee for the first time. A review of the structure, membership and working of the CAP is under way as part of the South Australian Dental Service (SADS) consumer participation framework.

Workforce issues remain a concern, especially in country areas. Emergency care and the appropriate use of the services have been reviewed during this year with the triage method under consideration. Waiting lists are always a concern. The injection of \$3m of extra funds will help to reduce this problem, however other cost pressures remain.

## South Australian Health and Community Services Skills Board

Over the past year SACOSS has been represented on the SA Health and Community Skills Board by Wendy Malycha, Jon Martin and Kate Hawke.

Whilst the previous year was one of great change, including changes to the Board's name, membership and staffing, the current year has been settled and productive. Activities have included:

- election of a new board;
- completion of a Childcare Industry Career Action Plan;
- commencement of a Workforce Development Fund project in the non-government mental health sector;
- establishing a project to scope the major workforce issues for the domestic violence sector;
- developing a partnership with the Youth Affairs Council of SA (YACSA) to increase the retention of youth workers;
- launch of the new website [www.sahcssb.com.au](http://www.sahcssb.com.au);
- development of links to the national, interstate and state based skills boards; and
- establishment of industry standing committees for both health and community services.

Changes to the Board's constitution have resulted in co-option of two members from SA Unions and the Department for Families and Communities (DFC). There will shortly be a reduction in SACOSS representation from two members to one.

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Julie McMahon

Kate Hawke



# SACOSS

**Board**

<b>Chairperson</b>	Simon <b>Schrapel</b>
<b>Deputy Chairperson</b>	Ian <b>Yates AM</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Peter <b>Hall</b>

**Attendances**

12 meetings were held during the Board year (July 2005—June 2006).

	<b>attended</b>	<b>eligible to attend</b>
Michael <b>Dawson</b> , Victim Support Service	10	12
Marj <b>Ellis</b> , Individual	9	12
Colleen <b>Fitzpatrick</b> , Lutheran Community Care	11	12
Leigh <b>Garrett</b> , Offenders' Aid and Rehabilitation Services	7	12
Karen <b>Grogan</b> , SACOSS Executive Director	12	12
Peter <b>Hall</b> , Treasurer	11	12
Christine <b>Halsey</b> , Individual	4	4
Wendy <b>Malycha</b> , St John's Youth Services	10	12
Sue <b>Park</b> , UnitingCare Wesley Adelaide	10	12
Simon <b>Schrapel</b> , Anglicare	12	12
Rochelle <b>Woodley-Baker</b> , Individual	11	12
Ian <b>Yates AM</b> , Council on the Ageing	9	12
Anna <b>Lewkowicz</b> , Individual	6	9

**Chairperson** Simon **Schrapel**

**Deputy Chairperson** Wendy **Malycha**

## Attendances

10 meetings were held during the Policy Council year (July 2005—June 2006).

	attended	eligible to attend
Phillip <b>Beddall</b> , Disability Action	9	10
Cynthia <b>Betterman</b> , Individual	6	10
Arlette <b>Beelitz</b> , Murray Mallee Strategic Task Force	6	10
Andrew <b>Biven</b> , SA Network of Drug and Alcohol Services (SANDAS)	8	10
Gabrielle <b>Canny</b> , Legal Services Commission of SA	8	10
Ed <b>Carson</b> , University of South Australia	7	10
Libby <b>Craft</b> , UnitingCare Wesley, Port Adelaide	7	10
Kym <b>Davey</b> , Individual	5	10
Michael <b>Dawson</b> , SACOSS Board	8	10
Martyn <b>Paxton</b> , Volunteering SA	9	10
Malcolm <b>Downes</b> , SACOSS staff	3	6
Terese <b>Edwards</b> , ANGOSA	8	10
Marj <b>Ellis</b> , Individual	6	10
Colleen <b>Fitzpatrick</b> , SACOSS Board	7	10
Rob <b>Foggo</b> , Anglican Community Care	5	8
Barbara <b>Garrett</b> MBE, SACOSS President	2	10
Karen <b>Grogan</b> , SACOSS Executive Director	8	10
John <b>Haren</b> , St Vincent de Paul Society	4	10
Geoff <b>Harris</b> , Mental Health Coalition of SA	5	8
Vivien <b>Hope</b> , Multicultural Communities Council	4	10
Gwyn <b>Jolley</b> , SA Community Health Research Unit	6	10
Frank <b>Lampard</b> , Aboriginal Prisoners & Offenders Support Services	7	8
Samantha <b>Laubsch</b> , Youth Affairs Council of SA	9	10
Anna <b>Leditschke</b> , Aboriginal Health Council of SA	1	1

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**Deputy Chairperson** Wendy **Malycha**

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# SACOSS

Policy Council Continued	attended	eligible to attend
	Wendy <b>Malycha</b> , SACOSS Board	9
Rosemary <b>Neal</b> , Community & Neighbourhood Houses Association 1		3
Anthea <b>Pavy</b> , UnitingCare Wesley, Port Pirie	5	10
Phil <b>Saunders</b> , Carers' Association of SA	8	10
Simon <b>Schrapel</b> , SACOSS Board	9	10
Tom <b>Steeple</b> s, Health Consumers Alliance of SA	6	6
Ciaran <b>Synnott</b> , Community Housing Council of SA	7	10
Gianna <b>Tridente</b> , Individual	6	7
Eugenia <b>Tsoulis</b> / Angela <b>de Conno</b> , Migrant Resource Centre	6	10
Michael <b>White</b> , City of Salisbury	5	10
Gary <b>Wilson</b> , Shelter SA	8	10
Glen <b>Williams</b> , The Salvation Army	0	3
Rosalyn <b>Williams</b> , SACOSS Staff	8	9
Rochelle <b>Woodley-Baker</b> , SACOSS Board	7	10
Ian <b>Yates AM</b> , Council On The Ageing	8	8

# SACOSS

## Position

Executive Director  
Deputy Director

Senior Administration Officer  
Organisational Support Officers

Communications Officer  
Constitutions Officer  
Policy & Project Officers

## Secretariat member

Karen **Grogan**  
Jennifer **Duncan**

Libby **Connell**  
Tracey **Nuske\***  
Kim **Rowland**  
Barbara **Stephenson**  
Gianna **Tridente\***

Celia **Brissenden**  
Julie **Detchon\***  
Andris **Banders**  
Alice **Clark**  
Shane **Dinnison**  
Malcolm **Downes\***  
Andrew **Nance\***  
Amanda **Shaw**  
Rosalyn **Williams\***  
Laura **Varley**

\*Left during the year

## Volunteers

Nancy **Brand**, Grethe **Brown**, Harvey **Brown**, Denise **Baker**

## Student Placements

Kim Duncan, Victor Krawczyk, Allison Taylor.

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# SACOSS Membership

## Organisational Members

Aboriginal Health Council of SA  
 Aboriginal Prisoners' & Offenders' Support Services  
 Adelaide Central Community Health Service  
 - Sefton Park  
 Adelaide Day Centre for Homeless Persons  
 Aged and Community Services SA and NT  
 Aged Rights Advocacy Service  
 AIDS Council of SA  
 Alzheimer's Australia SA  
 Anglican Community Care  
 Anglicare SA  
 ANGOSA  
 Archway Foundation SA  
 Association for Children with Disability (SA)  
 Asthma Foundation of SA  
 Attention Disorders Association of SA  
 Australian Association of Social Workers (SA)  
 Australian Education Union  
 Australian Huntington's Disease Association  
 (SA and NT)  
 Australian Nursing Federation (SA Branch)  
 Australian Red Cross (SA Division)  
 Australian Refugee Association  
 Australian South East Asian Women's Association  
 Australians for Native Title and Reconciliation (SA)  
 Baptist Community Services (SA)  
 Barkuma  
 Birthline Pregnancy Support  
 Brain Injury Network SA  
 Camden Community Centre  
 Carers' Association of SA  
 Careworks Australia  
 Centacare Catholic Family Services  
 Centacare Port Pirie  
 Central Eastern Domestic Violence Service  
 Central Northern Adelaide Health Service  
 Central Violence Intervention Program  
 Christie Downs Community House  
 Chronic Fatigue Syndrome ME/CFS Society (SA)  
 City of Onkaparinga  
 City of Port Adelaide Enfield  
 City of Salisbury  
 City of Unley  
 Clubhouse SA  
 Community Accommodation for the  
 Intellectually Disabled  
 Community and Neighbourhood Houses  
 and Centres Association  
 Community Bridging Services  
 Community Business Bureau  
 Community Employers' Association  
 Community Housing Council of SA  
 Community Information Strategies Australia  
 Community Living Project  
 Community Support  
 Corporation of the City of Adelaide (Community Development  
 Department)  
 Council of Pensioners and Retired Persons  
 Council on the Ageing (SA)  
 Debating SA  
 Department of Family and Community Services (FACS) -  
 SA office  
 Disability Action  
 Disability Advocacy and Complaints Service of SA  
 District Council of Mount Barker  
 Drug Arm Australasia  
 Eating Disorders Association of SA  
 Families First Alexandrina Council  
 Fleurieu Volunteer Resource Centre  
 Gawler Community Services Forum  
 Gay and Lesbian Counselling  
 Service of SA  
 Health Consumers Alliance of SA  
 Health and Community Services Network (Murray Mallee  
 Strategic Task Force)  
 Health Promotion SA  
 Health Rights and Community Action  
 Helping Hand Aged Care  
 Hepatitis C Council of SA  
 Hills Community Options  
 Homelessness SA  
 Humanist Society of SA  
 Hutt Street Centre  
 Individual Supported Accommodation Service  
 Intellectual Disability Services Council  
 Interchange  
 Julia Farr Services  
 Kids Future Kids  
 Kilburn Blair Athol Community Action Group  
 Legacy Club of Adelaide  
 Legal Services Commission of SA  
 Life Without Barriers SA  
 Lutheran Community Care  
 Marjorie Black House  
 Mental Health Coalition of SA  
 Mental Illness Fellowship of SA  
 Migrant Resource Centre of SA  
 Milang Progress Association  
 Mission Australia  
 Mount Barker Family House  
 Multicultural Aged Care  
 Multicultural Communities Council of SA  
 Murray Mallee Consumer Advisory Group  
 National Council of Single Mothers  
 and their Children  
 Network SA  
 North East Community Assistance Project  
 North East Community House (formerly ICARE)

# SACOSS Membership

Northern Suburbs Housing Co-operative	(Community Services Department)
Northern Volunteering SA	UnitingCare Wesley Adelaide
Obsessive Compulsive Disorders Support Service	UnitingCare Wesley Port Adelaide
Offenders' Aid and Rehabilitation Services of SA	UnitingCare Wesley Port Pirie
Office of the Guardian for Children and Young People	Victim Support Service
Onkaparinga City Community Services Forum	Volunteering SA
Palliative Care Council of SA	West Coast Youth Services
Para West Adult Campus	Welfare Rights Centre SA
Paradise Community Services	Women's Community Centre SA
People of Logos	Youth Affairs Council of SA
Playford Community Fund	YWCA of Adelaide
Relationships Australia (SA)	
Renmark Paringa Community Centre	
Retired Union Members Association	
Royal Adelaide Hospital - Staff Counselling and Consultancy Service	
Royal Flying Doctor Service of Australia (Central Operations)	
Royal Life Saving Society SA	
Service to Youth Council	
Shelter SA	
SHine SA	
Skill Teaching and Resources	
Social Options of Australia	
Social Policy Research Group - University of South Australia	
South Australian Community Health Association	
South Australian Community Health Research Unit	
South Australian Multiple Birth Association	
SA Network of Drug and Alcohol Services	
SA Salaried Medical Officers Association	
Southland Community Care	
SPARK Resource Centre	
St John Ambulance Australia SA	
St John's Youth Services	
St Vincent de Paul Society (SA)	
Stable Help	
Street Legal	
SWAP Community Information Network	
The Broughton Art Society	
The Head Injured Society of SA	
The Paraplegic and Quadriplegic Association of SA	
The Salvation Army SA	
The Smith Family	
The South Australian Financial Counsellors' Association	
The Women's Housing Association	
The Wyatt Benevolent Institution	
Time for Kids	
Torrens Valley Children's Centre	
Town of Gawler	

## SACOSS Membership

Northern Suburbs Housing Co-operative  
 Northern Volunteering SA  
 Obsessive Compulsive Disorders Support Service  
 Offenders' Aid and Rehabilitation Services of SA  
 Office of the Guardian for Children  
 and Young People  
 Onkaparinga City Community Services Forum  
 Palliative Care Council of SA  
 Para West Adult Campus  
 Paradise Community Services  
 People of Logos  
 Playford Community Fund  
 Relationships Australia (SA)  
 Renmark Paringa Community Centre  
 Retired Union Members Association  
 Royal Adelaide Hospital - Staff Counselling and  
 Consultancy Service  
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 (Central Operations)  
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 Research Unit  
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 Association of SA  
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 The Smith Family  
 The South Australian Financial  
 Counsellors' Association  
 The Women's Housing Association  
 The Wyatt Benevolent Institution  
 Time for Kids  
 Torrens Valley Children's Centre  
 Town of Gawler

(Community Services Department)  
 UnitingCare Wesley Adelaide  
 UnitingCare Wesley Port Adelaide  
 UnitingCare Wesley Port Pirie  
 Victim Support Service  
 Volunteering SA  
 West Coast Youth Services  
 Welfare Rights Centre SA  
 Women's Community Centre SA  
 Youth Affairs Council of SA  
 YWCA of Adelaide

Organisational Members



## SACOSS Membership

### Associate Members

Liz Abell  
Maxie Ashton  
Denise Baker  
Anna Balassone  
Harold Bates-Brownsword  
Jo Boulderstone  
Phillip Beddall  
Arlette Beelitz  
Lisa Beinke  
Cynthia Betterman  
Jane Borda  
Anne Bourne  
Graham Brown  
Robert Caley  
Elizabeth Callaghan  
David Cappel  
Arnold Cielens  
Andrew Clarke  
Linda-Jane Copley  
Truus Daalder  
Pam Dale  
Ivonna Danbergs  
Jenny Dawes  
Angela Dawes  
Rosemary Doolan  
Malcolm Downes  
Jennifer Duncan  
Marj Ellis  
Lynda Ford  
Margaret Galdies  
Davinder Gill  
Robert Goffin  
Ian Goodwin-Smith  
Jo-Anne Grigg  
Peter Hall  
Patricia Hart-Dundon  
Lindsay Holmes  
Leila Huebner  
Richard Hughes  
Heather James  
Howard Jillings  
Anne Johnson  
Glenys Jones  
Sandra Kanck  
Celia Karpfen  
Michael Keenan  
David Kilner  
Robert Kingston  
Anatoli Kushelew  
Peter Lake  
Paul Laris  
Ann Lawless  
Henry Lukowicz  
Sarah Macdonald  
Bev Majda  
Wendy Malycha  
Marjon Martin  
David McCormick  
Scott McFarlane  
Kathryn McInerney  
Julie McMahan  
Susan Mitchell  
Danielle Mowbray  
Dennis Murton  
Cheryl O'Brien  
Jack O'Connor  
Gisela Paine  
Christabel Parham  
Mark Parnell MLC  
Jennifer Paterson  
Andrea Petersen  
Melissa Raven  
Madeleine Regan  
Kate Reynolds  
Ted Russell  
Peter Sandeman  
Anne Sanders  
Phil Saunders  
Norma Shepheard  
Pam Simmons  
Heather Southcott  
Barbara Stephenson  
Jane Tassie  
Sue Tester  
Katherine Timoshanko  
Gianna Tridente  
Eugenia Tsoulis  
Rhonda Turley  
Christopher Wainwright  
Jan Wallent  
Kate Walsh  
Rhonda Wheatley  
Coral Wheaton  
Margarita White-McColl  
Emma Willoughby  
John Wishart  
Rochelle Woodley-Baker  
Jayne Wrigley  
Cheryl You Kee

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# SACOSS Membership

## Honorary Life Members

Grethe Brown  
Harvey Brown  
Kym Davey  
Colleen Fitzpatrick  
Gael Fraser  
Barbara Garrett MBE  
Peter Hall  
Sheila Hall  
Christine Halsey  
Mark Henley  
Margaret Hunter  
Elizabeth Hutchison  
Simon Kneebone  
Wendy Malycha  
Louise Portway  
Lange Powell  
Juidity Roberts AM  
Mark Waters  
Michael Wooley  
Ian Yates AM

## Honorary Members

Brian Butler  
Joy Noble  
Ruth Prescott  
Brian Ward  
Andrew Wilson

---

# SACOSS Membership

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Simon Kneebone  
Wendy Malycha  
Louise Portway  
Lange Powell  
Juidity Roberts AM  
Mark Waters  
Michael Wooley  
Ian Yates AM

Life and Honorary Members

## Honorary Members

Brian Butler  
Joy Noble  
Ruth Prescott  
Brian Ward  
Andrew Wilson



# Financial Reports



**SOUTH AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF SERVICE INC.**

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS**

PARTNERS:

Kevin Craddock  
James McKenzie  
Alexander Reade

### **Scope**

We have audited the financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of the South Australian Council of Social Service Inc. for the year ended 30 June 2006 as set out on pages 1 to 4. The Board is responsible for the preparation and true and fair presentation of the financial report and has determined that the accounting policies used and described in Note 1 to the financial statements which form part of the financial report are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act SA 1985 and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. This includes responsibility for the maintenance of adequate accounting records and internal controls that are designed to prevent and detect fraud and error, and for the accounting policies and accounting estimates inherent in the financial report.

The special purpose financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the Board's financial reporting requirements under the Associations Incorporation Act SA 1985. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

### **Audit Approach**

We conducted an independent audit in order to express an opinion to the members of the association. Our audit was conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, in order to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial report is free of material misstatement. The nature of an audit is influenced by factors such as the use of professional judgment, selective testing, the inherent limitations of internal control, and the availability of persuasive rather than conclusive evidence. An audit cannot guarantee that all material misstatements have been detected.

We performed procedures to assess whether in all material respects the financial report is presented fairly, in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1, so as to present a view which is consistent with our understanding of the association's financial position, and of its performance as represented by the results of its operations. These policies do not require the application of all Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used and described in Note 1, are appropriate for the needs of the members.



SOTHERTONS ADELAIDE PARTNERSHIP  
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42 Hurtle Square, Adelaide SA 5000  
GPO Box 2193, Adelaide SA 5001

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Website: [www.sothertons.com.au](http://www.sothertons.com.au)  
Sothertons An Association of Independent  
Accounting Firms throughout Australia

# Financial Reports

We formed our audit opinion on the basis of our procedures, which included examining, on a test basis, information to provide evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial report, and assessing the appropriateness of the accounting policies and disclosures used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Board. While we considered the effectiveness of management's internal controls over financial reporting when determining the nature and extent of our procedures, our audit was not designed to provide assurance on internal controls.

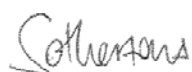
## Independence

In conducting our audit, we followed applicable independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

## Audit Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report of the South Australian Council of Social Service Inc. presents fairly, in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, the financial position of the organisation as at 30 June 2006 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended.



SOTHERTONS  
Adelaide Partnership



ALEX READE

42 Hurtle Square, Adelaide

Dated this 25<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2006.

# Financial Reports

We formed our audit opinion on the basis of our procedures, which included examining, on a test basis, information to provide evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial report, and assessing the appropriateness of the accounting policies and disclosures used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Board. While we considered the effectiveness of management's internal controls over financial reporting when determining the nature and extent of our procedures, our audit was not designed to provide assurance on internal controls.

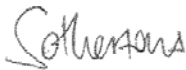
## Independence

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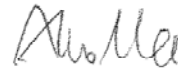
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## Audit Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report of the South Australian Council of Social Service Inc. presents fairly, in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, the financial position of the organisation as at 30 June 2006 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended.



SOTHERTONS  
Adelaide Partnership



ALEX READE

42 Hurtle Square, Adelaide

Dated this 25<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2006.

Independent Audit Report to the Members Continued



## Financial Reports

The Board have determined that the South Australian Council of Social Service Inc. (SACOSS) is not a reporting entity.

The Board have determined that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.


In the opinion of the members of the Board the financial report comprising the Income and Expenditure Statements, Balance Sheet and Notes to and forming part of the financial report:

- (a) Present fairly the financial position of SACOSS as at 30 June 2006 and its performance for the year ended on that date;
- (b) As at the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that SACOSS will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

During the financial year ended 30 June 2006:

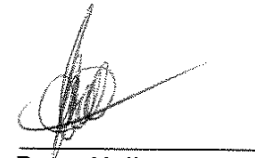
- (a) No officer of SACOSS, a firm of which an officer is a member or a body corporate in which an officer has a substantial financial interest, has received or become entitled to receive a benefit as a result of a contract between the office, firm or body corporate and SACOSS; and
- (b) No officer of SACOSS has received directly or indirectly from the association any payment or other benefit of a pecuniary value.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board and on behalf of the Board by:



**Simon Schrapel**  
Chairperson

25/09/2006



**Peter Hall**  
Treasurer

25/09/2006

# Financial Reports

## South Australian Council of Social Service Inc.

### Balance Sheet As at 30 June 2006

Balance Sheet

	Notes	<u>2006</u> \$	<u>2005</u> \$
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash			
Cash On Hand		140	140
Cash at Bank		881,404	1,120,631
Receivables			
Debtors and Prepayments		9,969	27,169
		<u>891,513</u>	<u>1,147,939</u>
<b>Non- Current assets</b>			
Investments - Mental Health		328,423	309,397
Office furniture and equipment	3	3,184	-
		<u>331,607</u>	<u>309,397</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<u>1,223,120</u>	<u>1,457,336</u>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Creditors and Borrowings			
Creditors and Accruals		23,358	76,213
Grants and Funds Received in Advance	2	589,943	640,974
Membership Fees in Advance		32,061	37,137
Provisions			
Provision for Annual Leave		17,038	21,372
Provision for Long Service Leave		10,697	9,491
Provision for Staff Redundancies		20,898	12,454
		<u>693,995</u>	<u>797,641</u>
<b>Non Current Liabilities</b>			
Grants and Funds Received in Advance	2	-	202,328
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<u>693,995</u>	<u>999,969</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<u>529,125</u>	<u>457,367</u>
<b>Accumulated Funds and Reserves</b>			
Accumulated Funds			
Accumulated Funds		204,047	144,727
Reserves - Mental Health Bequest	4	204,490	195,401
- Other		120,588	117,238
<b>Total Accumulated Funds and Reserves</b>		<u>529,125</u>	<u>457,367</u>

These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes and the Auditor's Report

# Financial Reports

## South Australian Council of Social Service Inc.

### Balance Sheet As at 30 June 2006

Balance Sheet

	Notes	<u>2006</u> \$	<u>2005</u> \$
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash			
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These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes and the Auditor's Report



# Financial Reports

**Income & Expenditure**
**South Australian Council of Social Service Inc.**
**Income & Expenditure Statement  
For the Year Ended 30 June 2006**

	Notes	<u>Core</u> \$	<u>Special Projects</u> \$	<u>2006</u> \$	<u>2005</u> \$
<b>Income</b>					
Grants		265,900	221,786	487,686	464,440
Member subscriptions and donations		56,510	-	56,510	57,522
Sales and advertising		5,154	176	5,330	4,684
Interest		54,821	-	54,821	38,854
Expense recovery and transfers	5	98,412	-	98,412	55,590
Consultancy fees		8,555	2,546	11,101	2,497
Mental Health Project		-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous income		5,490	22,410	27,900	3,746
Poverty Campaign			19,143	19,143	-
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>494,842</b>	<b>266,061</b>	<b>760,903</b>	<b>627,333</b>
<b>Expenses</b>					
Employment expenses		293,968	165,197	459,165	422,964
Location expenses		52,468	889	53,356	60,799
Supplies		32,473	15,540	48,013	29,940
Service		22,112	45,423	67,535	91,544
Reference materials		12,346	37,749	50,095	6,199
Travel expenses		15,042	4,805	19,847	19,959
Equipment repairs, purchases and depreciation		2,080	3,424	5,504	4,314
Stock on Hand at 1 July 2004					2,327
General expenses		5,766	2,241	8,007	18,230
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>436,255</b>	<b>275,267</b>	<b>711,522</b>	<b>656,276</b>
<b>Net Operating Surplus (Deficit)</b>		<b>58,587</b>	<b>(9,206)</b>	<b>49,381</b>	<b>(28,943)</b>
Interest received - Mental Health Reserve	4			19,026	17,702
Transfer to Mental Health Reserve	4			(9,087)	(17,702)
<b>Net Surplus (Deficit)</b>				<b>59,320</b>	<b>(28,943)</b>
<b>Accumulated Funds at the beginning of the year</b>				<b>144,727</b>	<b>173,670</b>
<b>Accumulated Funds at the end of the year</b>				<b>204,047</b>	<b>144,727</b>

These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes and the Auditor's Report

# Financial Reports

**South Australian Council of Social Service Inc.**

**Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended 30 June 2006**

Notes

## **Note 1 : Statement of Significant Accounting Policies**

This financial report is a special purpose report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act. The Board has determined that the organisation is not a reporting entity.

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the following Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements:

AAS 5: Materiality

AAS 8: Events Occurring After Reporting Date

No other Australian Accounting Standards, Urgent Issues Group Consensus Views or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board have been applied.

The financial report is prepared on an cash basis, is based on historic costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following specific accounting policy, which is consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, has been adopted in the preparation of this report.

### *Income Tax*

The organisation is exempt from income tax as a non-profit organisation and funds are not available for distribution to members.

### *GST*

All income and expenditure are stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

### *Comparatives*

Where necessary comparative figures have been adjusted to conform with the presentation of current year figures.

### *Fixed Assets*

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets is depreciated over the useful life of the asset commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Assets purchased by grant funding are expensed in the year of purchase.

### *Employee Entitlements*

Provision is made for the organisation's liability for employee entitlements arising from services rendered by employees to balance date. Employee entitlements include annual leave, long service leave, and redundancies where applicable.

Contributions are made by the organisation to superannuation funds and are charged as expenses when incurred.

### *Revenue*

Government and other grants are brought to account as income to the extent to which they have been applied to the intended projects. Amounts received and not yet applied are recorded as liabilities under Grants and Funds Received in Advance.

Membership fees are brought to account as income to the extent to which they represent fees for the current year. Fees received for subsequent years are recorded as liabilities under Membership Fees in Advance.

These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes and the Auditor's Report

# Financial Reports

## South Australian Council of Social Service Inc.

### Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2006

#### Note 1 : Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

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These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes and the Auditor's Report



# Financial Reports

**Notes**

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>
	\$	\$
<b>2. Grants and Funds received in advance</b>		
<i>Current Liabilities</i>		
NILS Project	3,833	4,440
Best Practice/ACM Grant	10,118	10,118
DFAC Funding	157,673	250,000
Comm Benefits	17,000	10,138
ICT Project	15,000	-
Food Project	30,000	-
Health Seminar	-	5,689
Electricity Advocacy	4,040	3,079
Micro Finance Department	52,064	88,925
Mental Health Coalition	57,000	57,000
Torrens Building funds	69,077	69,077
Electricity Research Project	-	1,000
Poverty Campaign	9,149	28,117
SA Collaboration	12,275	5,391
Service Excellence Development Project	142,714	108,000
Youth Roundtable	10,000	-
	<u>589,943</u>	<u>640,974</u>
<i>Non-Current Liabilities</i>		
Micro Finance Funds in Advance	-	37,328
Service Excellence Development Project	-	108,000
Mental Health Coalition	-	57,000
	<u>-</u>	<u>202,328</u>
<b>3. Plant &amp; Equipment</b>		
Office Furniture, Equipment & Software - at cost	105,625	101,216
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	102,441	101,216
	<u>3,184</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>4. Mental Health Bequest</b>		
The interest received from bequests to SACOSS was used to fund, in part, the Mental Health Project and consequently does not form part of the core income of SACOSS for this year.		
Balance at beginning of year	195,401	177,699
Add: Interest earned	19,026	17,702
Less: Funds expended - Marjorie Black House	<u>(9,937)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net increase for year	<u>9,089</u>	<u>17,702</u>
Balance at end of year	<u>204,490</u>	<u>195,401</u>
<b>5. Cost Recovery from Projects</b>		
SACOSS has a policy of recovering a portion of its administrative costs from projects		

These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes and the Auditor's Report

## External Committees

ACOSS Board of Governors .....	Terese Edwards
AGL National Customer Council .....	Rosalyn Williams
Carers Reference Group, Department for Families and Communities.....	Geoff Harris
Centrelink Community Consultative Committee .....	Rosalyn Williams
Child Protection Inter-Agency Guidelines Steering Committee.....	Rob Foggo
Child Protection Inter-Agency Guidelines Working Party.....	Rob Foggo
Children's Interest Bureau .....	Cynthia Betterman
Children's Services Planning Advisory Committee .....	Maureen McGuire
Community Foodies Alliance .....	Lorraine Kerr
Community Information Strategies Australia Board .....	Malcolm Downes / Karen Grogan
Council for the Care of Children .....	Simon Schrapel
Council of the Telecommunications Industry Ombudsman Ltd.....	Geoff Harris
Course Advisory Panel, Certificate I in Preparatory Education.....	Barbara Lawner Wexler
Courts Administration Authority, Community Relations Committee .....	Frank Lampard
Dame Roma Mitchell Trust Fund for Children and Young People .....	Christine Halsey
Emergency Relief State Advisory Committee .....	Rosalyn Williams
Energy Consumers' Council .....	Karen Grogan
ESCOSA Consumer Advisory Committee .....	Mark Henley
Flinders University Aboriginal Health Research Unit Advisory Group.....	Jennifer Duncan
Funding and Planning Work Group .....	Wendy Malycha
Gamblers' Rehabilitation Fund Committee .....	Libby Craft
Health Reform SA Member Committee .....	Jennifer Duncan
Housing Advisory Community Council Committee .....	Christine Halsey / Karen Grogan
Inequalities in SA: vol 2 Reference Group.....	Gwyn Jolley
Inner City Assistance Network.....	Rosalyn Williams
International Society for Equity in Health, 4th International Conference .....	Jennifer Duncan
Julia Farr Services Board .....	Andrew Kyprianou
Legal Services Commission Board.....	Deborah McCulloch / Mike Dawson
Mental Health Housing and Support Policy Reference Group .....	Andris Banders
Ministerial Reference Group on Tobacco Control.....	Wendy Malycha
Offenders' Aid and Rehabilitation Services Council.....	Marj Ellis
Office of the North Governance Group .....	Karen Grogan
Premier's Volunteer Ministerial Advisory Group .....	Mark Leahy
Review of Property Based Concessions Steering Group.....	Matt Fisher / David Kilner
SA Anti-Poverty Week Facilitating Group .....	Jennifer Duncan / Rosalyn Williams
SA Dental Services Consumer Advisory Panel .....	Julie McMahan
SA Community Services and Health Skills Board.....	Jon Martin / Kate Hawke
SA Housing Trust Triennial Review Reference Group.....	Christine Halsey
SA Water Customer Council.....	Greg Were / Shane Dinnison
Telecommunications Consumer Group SA.....	Rosalyn Williams
Vulnerable Infants Services Plan Steering Group.....	Terese Edwards / Lyssa Jones
Yarrow Place Rape and Sexual Assault Service Management Committee .....	Rochelle Woodley-Baker

## External Committees

ACOSS Board of Governors .....	Terese Edwards
AGL National Customer Council .....	Rosalyn Williams
Carers Reference Group, Department for Families and Communities.....	Geoff Harris
Centrelink Community Consultative Committee.....	Rosalyn Williams
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